



CALPEEK

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GOV. DAVIS SIGNS SB 60, BUT DRIVERS LICENSE FOES WILL AIM FOR MARCH 2004 REFERENDUM.

Editor's note: As most *Calpeek* readers are aware, the CA Legislature passed and Gov. Gray Davis(D) signed a bill (SB 60) to allow non-citizens to get a CA Driver's License. Lots of politics with this bill, which Davis had vetoed in the past because of concerns raised by Davis' allies in law enforcement. And no sooner had Davis signed Demo State Sen. Gil Cedillo's bill than conservatives launched a referendum. Here's our analysis...

...The chief hurdle non-citizens had in getting a CDL (CA Driver's License) was no social security number. And that's still not part of SB 60. The key ID to be used by non-citizens will be a federal TIN - Taxpayer Identification Number. Some 14 other states also issues drivers licenses to non-citizens, so Calif. isn't alone. Regardless, the process of obtaining a license under SB 60 is complex and some think there won't be that many individuals who apply under the new rules. There's still lots of paranoia when it comes to the INS or the government in general...

...Politically, Davis has always toed the line with his law & order supporters, but faced with the recall, Davis decided it was in his political interests (survival) to sign the bill, rather than risk a costly digital salute from Calif.'s growing immigrant community...

...SB 60 could provide an economic shot in the arm for Calif. By some estimates, there may be as many as 2 million non-citizens driving in Calif. without a license. Assuming only half that number get licenses, that could mean a big increase in new and used car sales and perhaps as much as \$1 billion in potential auto insurance premiums. That's perhaps one reason why ACIC (Assn. of CA Insurance Companies) was in support of SB 60. Will SB 60 have an impact on uninsured motorists? Perhaps. The last study on Calif. uninsured motorists(1997) put the figure at 21.9%, 6th highest in the U.S. If the number of uninsured motors drops because of SB 60, sources think that might help reduce premiums for drivers who already have auto insurance...

...Conservatives say SB 60 will render the CA Drivers License useless as proof of legal residency. CA State Sen. Tom McClintock(R) has joined with 187 co-sponsor/former State Sen. Dick Mountjoy(R) and CRA Pres. Mike Spence, to launch a referendum against SB 60. Spence will be the actual proponent. A new Field Poll has it 59% against vs. 34% in favor of SB 60. Citizens Opposed to Driver's Licenses for Illegal Immigrants (official name of the referendum committee) needs to collect 374,000 valid signatures by Dec. 4th to qualify for the March 4th 2004 ballot. Spence says the committee already has pledges of \$100,000, but more will be needed to insure qualification. Odds of the referendum winning if it reaches the ballot are better than 80/20, sources believe...

...But is a referendum by conservatives just for short term gain; or is it again a case of long term pain for the Calif. Republican Party? Calif. Latinos have not forgotten or forgiven the GOP for its support of Prop. 187. Thus some Demo sources think conservatives are making a big mistake with SB 60 that could cost Pres. George W. Bush not only in Calif., but in other states with large numbers of Hispanic voters. Bush's top political guru, Karl Rove, has stated that because of changing demographics, Bush needs to pick up 5-6 million votes in 2004 or he could be in trouble. And the White House is eyeing Hispanic voters as the pickup source. Going after SB 60 won't help Bush. Stay tuned...

RECALL MADNESS: UEBERROTH DROPS OUT. NEW POLLING STILL HAS DEMO BUSTAMANTE LEADING.

Editor's note: As *Calpeek* has noted before, there seems to be a major news development in the Oct. 7th recall of Gov. Gray Davis(D) just about every 12 to 24 hours. Best example: the new Field Poll leaked out the evening of Sept. 8th and by 1:30 p.m. Sept. 9th businessman Peter Ueberroth announced that he was pulling the plug on his campaign for governor. Here is our analysis & commentary...

...Much of what is happening now goes back to the evening of Sept. 3rd - the day of the first recall debate in Contra Costa County. The two big debate losers: Ueberroth and GOP actor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Arnold first. Most

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sources think Schwarzenegger is bright, even if he's a little light on specifics. In that particular debate format, sources say he would have scored big points and these same sources think his campaign team goofed for keeping him away. As for Ueberroth, his debate performance was lackluster at best. The day before he dropped out, a Demo source told *Calpeek*, "I'm amazed Ueberroth is still in the race." And this Demo source thought, as did other Demo sources, that the debate winner was State Sen. Tom McClintock(R). He may be very conservative, but his answers were concise. As a result of his performance, McC not only consolidated his base, he perhaps even expanded it; at Schwarzenegger's expense. Will McC follow Ueberroth and bow out? Lots of pressure is building on him, but our sources say no...

...As for Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante(D), his answers were not that clear, but "he didn't fall off the stage either," as this same Demo source told *Calpeek*. Bottomline: in this debate Cruz *wasn't* ready for prime time. FYI: Gov. Gray Davis, who took questions from journalists prior to the debate, did remarkably well. Has he turned the corner? NO not yet and his key problem continues to be Demos. In the CA Chamber poll, 27% of Demos favor the recall...

...Now to the polling: We have new surveys from Field and from the Calif. Chamber of Commerce, as well as some data from private Demo polling. It's all fairly close, on both parts of the recall question. The Calif. Chamber's poll was done by Austin-based Baselice & Assoc. (Sept. 1-4, 1,005 likely voters). Field's survey was taken Sept. 3-7 among 505 likely voters...

	<u>Field</u>	<u>CA Chamber</u>
Remove Davis	55%	52%
Keep Davis	40%	41%
Replacement Candidates		
Bustamante(D)	30%	33%
Schwarzenegger(R)	25%	28%
McClintock(R)	13%	12%
Ueberroth(R)	5%	10%
Huffington(I)	3%	3%
Camejo(G)	2%	1%
Others	4%	3%
None	2%	3%
Undecided	16%	7%

...In private polling by Sacto-based Jim Moore, he has Bustamante at 35%, Schwarzenegger 26%, McC at 15% and Ueberroth at 6%. In terms of the recall, it's 55% remove Davis vs. 41% keep Davis...

...FYI: in addition to Moore, there are some other Demo polling firms who are polling for clients. One firm just

finished a series of focus groups. According to our source, of the Demos questioned, many are starting to look at the risks of tossing Davis out, even though these Demos are "in a sour mood when it comes to Davis." In other words, Demos are now looking at the full implications of a GOP governor. That's why these focus groups also show Bustamante beginning to solidify the Demo base – which is reflected in most polling. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2003: AS FPPC HITS CONNERLY, LT. GOV. BUSTAMANTE DONATES \$3.8 MILLION TO NO ON 54.
Editor's note: While it is way too early to write off the YES on Prop. 54 campaign, it's also fair to say that Ward Connerly, chief sponsor and spokesman for the *Racial Privacy Initiative*, isn't catching much of a break these days. In fact, the past 10 days have been down right horrible. Here's our analysis & commentary...

...It took the FPPC six months to finally act, but on Sept. 3rd the State's top campaign watchdog finally filed a civil complaint and motion for a preliminary injunction against the American Civil Rights Coalition(ACRC) and its CEO (Connerly), alleging that ACRC and Connerly "have violated campaign disclosure laws by failing to file campaign statements reporting the source of almost \$2 million contributed to promote passage of Prop. 54..." The legal maneuvering seeks to force Connerly to disclose the names of those individuals and companies who contributed to ACRC – because it was ACRC, acting as a PAC, which provided most of the funds for YES on 54. Connerly says ACRC, as a non-profit, doesn't have to disclose the names...

...Neutral sources say if it hadn't been for the NO on 54 campaign (aka *The Coalition for an Informed Calif*) the FPPC would probably still be sitting on the complaint(s), which were first filed against ACRC and Connerly back in April and then again in July and August. NO on 54 attorneys (Remcho, Johansen & Purcell) issued a warning in August to the FPPC: either you take action now or within a 120 days NO on 54 will file a *civil action* against Prop. 54. Don't know if the publicity surrounding NO on 54's implied threat had an impact, but odds are it did. For his part, Connerly says he'll fight the FPPC all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court...

...The other big item concerning Prop. 54 was the news that Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante(D) has decided to spend upwards of \$3.8 million on tv ads blasting Prop. 54. The money Bustamante will be using came in big hunks (way over the Prop. 34 limit) from three Indian gaming casinos and two labor unions. Bustamante's campaign has been mashed in the news media for accepting the funds – and obviously the heat was being felt. There's no doubt that

additional funding will help the NO on 54 campaign, because the news media has been totally focused on the recall and *not* on Props. 53 and 54. Bustamante will be the spokesman in his own NO on 54 ads and sources say the focus will be on the healthcare loopholes in Prop. 54. FYI: GOP recall candidate Arnold Schwarzenegger also went NO on 54. Stay tuned...

AB 205 SENT TO GOV. DAVIS. NEW POLL SHOWS VOTERS STILL DISAPPROVE OF GAY MARRIAGE.

Editor's note: Is there a difference between same sex marriage and domestic partnerships? Hardline conservatives don't think so and say that AB 205 – which is now on Gov. Gray Davis' desk awaiting his signature, violates *Prop. 22* (The Definition of Marriage Act) which was passed by voters in 2000. Here's our brief update & analysis...

... **Polling first.** A new Field Poll (Aug. 10-13, 629 registered voters) shows that **50%** still disapprove of extending marriage laws to gay and lesbian couples. **42%** approve of same sex marriage. At the same time, **45%** feel that sexual relations between two adults of the same sex is not at all wrong vs. **36%** who disagree. And by a **60% vs. 30%** margin, Calif. voters support the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling affirming the legality of homosexual relations between consenting adults. And finally, the Field Poll found that **50%** of Calif. voters **oppose** a U.S. constitutional amendment to define marriage as exclusively between a man and a woman. FYI: already on the U.S. books is DOMA: the Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as being between a man and woman. It was signed into law by former Pres. Bill Clinton(D)...

... As for AB 205, State Sen. Pete Knight(R-Palmdale) says he'll go to court to overturn AB 205 should Gov. Davis sign it into law. Knight, the author of Prop. 22, says it would confer nearly all the benefits and rights of marriage to same sex couples, "making a mockery of the voters' overwhelming approval of a 2000 initiative."...

... The bill won't take effect until 2005. Some of the new rights and responsibilities include financial support after a domestic partnership is dissolved; child support/custody; paying off debts. The original structure of domestic partnerships was created in 1999 (Carole Migden-D/SF). And it should be noted that domestic partnerships are not restricted to gays. Heterosexual couples (where one partner is 62 or older) can also register as domestic partners...

... FYI: In terms of marriage, unless Knight's Prop. 22 is repealed – which requires a vote of the people – there will be no gay marriage or civil unions between same sex couples in Calif. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2004: UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE RACES.

Editor's note: Here's is *Part XX* in our continuing series of updates about key U.S. House and Calif. Legislative primary contests...

☒ **20th CD** – A big shock as U.S. Rep. Cal Dooley(D-Hanford) has decided **not** to seek reelection to his safe Kern Co. house seat. Dooley, 49, was first elected in 1990 and is considered a moderate Demo. Dooley's unexpected announcement has set off a scramble on the Demo side. Dooley is pressing his long-time COS, Lisa Quigley, to run. Other Demo names to surface include Assemblywoman Sarah Reyes, former State Sen. Jim Costa and current State Sen. Dean Florez of Shafter. Florez is eyeing a 2006 run for State Treasurer and thus he's already taken himself out. Florez was quoted in the *Bakersfield Californian* as saying, "That seat has Sarah Reyes written all over it."...

☒ **63rd AD Update** – Left out dentist Bill Emmerson in our last report about the GOP primary in this Inland Empire open seat now held by Bob Dutton(R), who is giving up his seat to run for Sen. Jim Brulte's 31st SD next year. Emmerson has raised \$316,885 and has \$298,008 cash on hand. Emmerson has been endorsed by Assemblymembers Bogh, Benoit and Garcia, as well as by State Sen. Jim Battin and Sam Aanestad. Emmerson is the former chair of the CA Dental Assn.'s PAC...

☒ **47th AD Update** – Add some more names to the list of those who are planning to run for Speaker Herb Wesson's very safe Demo seat in 2004. Topping the list is former L.A. Councilman Nate Holden. Next is community leader and healthcare professional Karen Bass, who has a ton of impressive endorsements. And according to Joey Hill, he's still looking at this primary so don't take him out. Names we've already mentioned here are attorneys Rickey Ivie and Ted Smith, who also is chair of the CDP's African American Caucus...

☒ **60th AD Update** – Diamond Bar Councilman Bob Huff is running in the GOP primary and he's the fundraising leader over Gayle Pacheco (\$205,360 coh) and Bill MacAloney (entered the race too late to file a report, but did contribute \$100,000 of his own as seed money). Huff raised \$241,949 and has \$235,119 coh. The 60th AD is currently held by termed out Assemblyman Bob

Pacheco – Gayle's husband...

☒ **9th AD** – There's a field of five well known Demos who want to replace Assemblyman Darrell Steinberg of Sacramento. Included in the field are Sacto Co. Sup. Roger Dickinson; Sacto Councilmembers Dave Jones & Lauren Hammond; former PD chief Arturo Venegas; school board member Manny Hernandez; and a Donna Begay. With the exception of Begay, all the other candidates have well known Demo campaign consultants: Dickinson (Paul Kinney); Venegas (Richie Ross); Jones (Park Skelton); Hammond (Phil Giarrizzo) and Hernandez (Jim Gonzalez). Only polling comes from Dickinson (Aug. 3-6, 400 likely Demo voters) in a Fairbank, Maslin Maullin survey: Dickinson at 24%, Venegas at 13%, Hammond 12%, Jones 9%; Hernandez 5%; Begay 2%; undecided 35%. The fundraising leader is Jones with \$275,126 raised/\$267,930 coh. Dickinson has raised \$154,637, with \$167,416 coh. Hammond \$69,796 raised/\$62,332 coh. Venegas \$56,514 raised/\$50,315 coh. Hernandez raised \$54,439 with \$22,780 coh. There was no report for Begay...

☒ **42nd AD** – Sources tell *Calpeek* that former L.A. Councilman Mike Feuer(D) is taking a poll to see what his chances would be should he challenge incumbent Demo Assemblyman Paul Koretz in 2004. Stay tuned...

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political & otherwise, worth noting...

■ ***The Mother of All Paybacks*** – One of the interesting side stories from *Recall Madness* is the effort by some Demo special interest groups to get their pet bills to Gov. Gray Davis' desk before the Legislature adjourns (9/12) because these folks don't know who will be governor after Oct. 7th. If the intent is to jam Davis, they've made a big mistake. If Davis is recalled, there will be at least a 3-day period after Oct. 7th where Davis will still be in charge. And *Calpeek* sources say that Davis' staff has already drawn up the signature and veto messages on most all of the key bills. The unwritten message is real simple: help me fight the recall or there will be *payback*...

■ ***Parsky Resigns CRP Post*** – Gerald Parsky, Pres. Bush's go-to guy here in Calif., has resigned as head of Team Calif. (the fundraising arm of the CA Republican Party) and he also resigned from the CRP Board of Directors. Parsky has been asked to lead Pres. George Bush's Calif. reelection campaign. To avoid any conflicts, Parsky resigned his CRP jobs. No replacement for Parsky

as yet on Team Calif...

■ ***McCarthy to Replace Cox*** – Just in case you missed it, GOP Assembly Leader Dave Cox of Sacto will be stepping down in January 2004 – to be replaced by Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield. He was unanimously elected to the post Sept. 8th...

■ ***Panetta to Head Structural Reform Effort*** – Seems a little late to be appointing Leon Panetta to figure out how best to fix Calif.'s structural budget problems, but that's what Gov. Davis announced Sept. 2nd. Much of what Panetta will be doing (assuming Davis is still governor after 10/7) is already contained in a June 15th report prepared by another Davis panel: Calif. Commission on Tax Policy in the New Economy. Note to Mr. Panetta: read Appendix A – Proposed Structural Reforms of the State Budget Process. It includes recommendations on a budget reserve, revising the spending limit and multi-year budgeting. Adelphia's Bill Rosendahl was the commission chair...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Sept. 17	L.A. Press Club recall debate, 3 p.m., L.A. Film School. Contact (323)469-8180.
Sept. 22	Last day to register for the Oct. 7 th recall.
Sept. 24	1 st recall candidates debate sponsored by the CA Broadcasters Assn. (6-7:30 p.m.)
Oct. 2-4	AAPC Academic Conf., Akron, OH
Oct. 7	Special Recall Election – Calif.
Oct. 14	S.F. Mayor's debate, 7-8 p.m. KPIX-TV and KCBS-AM radio.
Nov. 4	S.F. Muni Election + other cities
Nov. 7	VICA Business Forecast Conf., Warner Center Marriott Hotel.
Nov. 13	SCAG Regional Economic forecast conf., Newport Beach.
Nov. 15-18	IAPC – Prague, Czech Republic

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